[Mr. T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar.]

community who are qualified to enter Government service are not entertained in the service, in spite of repeated applications to the educational authorities; and

(*b*) whether any steps have been taken by the Government in regard to the representation made at the last session of the Popular Assembly by Mr. S. M. Fernando, nominated member, on the above subject?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) No special steps are called for.

Disafforestation of Reserves.

156. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of acres of arable lands included in the various reserved forests with the names of the taluks in which they are situated, which have hitherto been proposed to be registered by the several Disafforestation Committees?

(*b*) Have the Government appointed any such committee for the taluks north of Kottayam?

(*c*) Are the Government aware that there are many plots of land in the hills of Muvattupuzha, Todupuzha and Kunnatnad which, though fit for cultivation, are now included in the reserves?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they propose to appoint immediately such committees for these taluks also?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Only the reports of two committees, *viz.*, those for the Devicolam and Peermade taluks, have so far been received by the Government and they are under consideration. Particulars of the areas suggested by the committees for disafforestation are given below:—

	Name of Taluk.	*Name of reserve.*	*Approximate area proposed to be disafforested.*
			Acres.
1.	Devicolam	Cardamom Hills Reserve.	1,150
2.	Peermade	Do.	790
3.	Do.	Periyar Lake Reserve	210

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

(*c*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*d*) A G. O. is under issue for the constitution of committees for the taluks of Kunnatnad, Muvattupuzha and Todupuzha.

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